

SS9 : The Land and Its People  
Unit Test Preparation

**Task One (36 marks)**

Imagine you are traveling across Canada, perhaps a six-day trip from Halifax to Vancouver on the Transcanada Highway that parallels the U.S. border. You will cross through six physiographic regions, many interesting landscapes and human settlements, and across the traditional territory of many First Nations groups.

Describe your journey in the form of a journal or travel diary. You may use maps and pictures if you like, but the emphasis should be on the writing. You must mention all six physiographic regions and describe at least three in detail, including how they were formed and shaped in the past. You should mention at least three of the First Nations (the tribe (e.g. Blackfoot) as well as the cultural group (e.g. Plains) whose territory you would cross and deal with one in detail. The duration of your trip is up to you; the format of your journal or travel diary is also flexible (although pen and paper is just fine). You do not need to put references for all your sources, but you **MUST** have all the writing in your own words.

**Task Two (12 marks)**

Make a chart that compares Aboriginal and European culture based on what you have learned so far in Social Studies 9. Your topics should include (but are not limited to): place of origin, arrival in North America, transportation systems, important values/beliefs, use of land and resources, impact on each other.

**Notes:** Both tasks may make use of any source you wish (e.g. your notes, what you have read in the textbook, Internet research, other books, etc.). Your journal and your chart should help answer these unit focus questions:

1. What are the characteristics of North America's physical regions?
2. How do physical and climatic forces shape the land, past and future?
3. How did Aboriginal Peoples come to occupy North America?
4. What are the characteristics of Canadian First Nations' subsistence, geographic adaptation, and culture?
5. Why and how did the Vikings and other early explorers visit North America, and why did they leave?
6. What patterns and impacts resulted from visits by Europeans in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries?

ALTERNATE: If you really can't wrap your mind around the journal and chart, you are permitted to simply answer the six focus questions as thoroughly as possible.

You may submit this assignment electronically. You will have at least one class period to work on this.